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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****FEB 27 2006****DATE:** 2/27/06**PTO IDENTIFIER:** Application Number 10/656,190-Conf. #8417  
Patent Number**Inventor:** Nobuhiro Miki et al.**MESSAGE TO:** US Patent and Trademark Office**FAX NUMBER:** (571) 273-8300**FROM:** CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

Myron Keith Wyche

**PHONE:** (202) 331-7111**Attorney Dkt. #:** 21776-00042-US1**PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):** 10**CONTENTS:** Response to Non-Compliant Amendment  
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Application No. (if known): 10/656,190

Attorney Docket No.: 21776-00042-US1

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Response to Non-Compliant Amendment

Docket No.: 21776-00042-US  
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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of:

Conf. No. 8417

Nobuhiro Miki, et al.

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Application No.: 10/656,190

Group Art Unit: 1744

FEB 27 2006

Filed: September 8, 2003

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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For: SURFACE PURIFICATION APPARATUS  
AND SURFACE PURIFICATION METHOD

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RESPONSE TO NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENTCommissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated February 14, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.